

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Applicant has carefully considered this application in connection with the Examiner's Action and respectfully requests reconsideration.

The Applicant originally submitted Claims 1-20 in the application. The Applicant has presently amended Claims 1, 3, 4, 11, 14 and 15 and has cancelled Claims 2 and 13. Accordingly, Claims 1, 3-12, and 14-20 are currently pending in the application.

I. Rejection of Claims 1, 6, 7, 11, 16, and 17 under 35 U.S.C. §102

These claims are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,770,632 to Sekhar (Sekhar). The Examiner has indicated that Claims 2 and 13 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. The Applicant has amended independent Claims 1 and 11 to incorporate the elements of Claims 2 and 13, respectively. Accordingly, Claims 1 and 11 and their respective dependent claims have now been placed in condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection.

II. Rejection of Claims 1, 4-7, 9, 11, 14-17 and 19 under 35 U.S.C. §103

These claims are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Sekhar in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,924, 319 to Alsdorf (Alsdorf). In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, this rejection is now moot. Therefore, the Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner withdraw the rejection.

III. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, the Applicant now sees all of the Claims currently pending in this application to be in condition for allowance and therefore earnestly solicits a Notice of Allowance for Claims 1, 3-12, and 14-20.

The Applicant requests the Examiner to telephone the undersigned attorney of record at (972) 480-8800 if such would further or expedite the prosecution of the present application. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees, credits or overpayments to Deposit Account 08-2395.

Respectfully submitted,

HITT GAINES, PC

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Charles W. Gaines".

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